

Association Journal says: 'A description which can only be improved by the substitution of "English-speaking" for British!' When we saw the advertisement from the Police Gazette of July 1, 1922, that 'any one' could be taught, by correspondence from the 'American University' to become 'a doctor,' to earn 'from \$3000 to \$5000 yearly,' and to become 'a member of an honorable and respected profession,' we were shocked, both because we had not seen the seductive pink sheet very often since our country barber shop days, and because we had believed that such advertising violated our postal laws and had been suppressed. We are now convinced that it will go on as long as there are minute men, and one is born every minute, to respond to its call."

The Series of Articles Running in "Hearst's International Magazine"—This magazine is publishing a series of articles by Paul H. De Kruif which ought to be read by every physician because they are being widely read by thousands of other persons. Dr. De Kruif is publishing some unpleasant truths about the prevention and cure of disease and he is saying some things that most physicians will resent as being inaccurate and destructively critical rather than constructive. Norman Hapgood in the September number of "Hearst's International," which contains De Kruif's first article, says, editorially, regarding these articles:

"The doctor is present at birth and at death. He comes when the life of a dear child lies in the balance, and he consults with us about the recurrent headache. The difference in the home between an able family doctor and a quack (or semi-quack) may be a difference in happiness beyond estimate.

"The series, to which we publish this month the introduction, is of no use to those who wish the name of some pill, or some new medical nickname, by resort to which magic relief can be brought to heart-disease and hiccoughs, to erysipelas and earache, to corns and constipation. It is of no value to a fool. To those, however, who realize that the choice of a doctor is one of the most important of acts, and that medicine has exact technical bases, the series is indispensable.

"He who reads with a trifle better than moron attention the expert and varied articles in the series will see emerging clearly the principles that should guide an intelligent person through the maze of medicines and the delirium of fake doctors. Never have medicines been so many; of this multitude only a few mean anything. It is easy to know which ones are real.

"Among those who will gain most are earnest doctors, not themselves living in an atmosphere of research, who will be grateful to be shown how they also have fallen victims in a false drug traffic.

"Indeed, one of the ironies of this story is that what appears as progress sometimes is merely the new form of an old idea. In the brilliant campaign of fifteen years or so ago in which Samuel Hopkins Adams published his articles on 'The Great American Fraud,' there was dealt to the patent medicines a blow from which the effect remains. Selling to the public carbolic acid and water as a cure for consumption, carditis and cramps is not as easy as it was. But newer and subtler methods of fraud have taken the place of the earlier, cruder forms. The foremost frauds are now 'ethical.' That means they are advertised not direct to the public but in the medical press. Which makes this continued story a new tale, sad at once and diverting."

The second article of this series, in the October number, is devoted to the Vitamin Craze. If we judge reaction correctly the Vitamin Craze is already on the wane and we doubt very much whether De Kruif is doing more in this second article than tying the usual tin can to the dog's tail.

California Also—We still receive newspaper clippings from Elwood indicating that the name of one of the doctors there, president of the county medical society, appears in the daily papers every day or so in connection with a report of medical and surgical cases, and we have been asked by other doctors, "What is the State Medical Association going to do about it?" As a matter of fact, the State Medical Association will do nothing about it, for each county medical society is the judge as to the qualifications of its members, and not only approves but censors the conduct of its members. If the county medical society is satisfied that one of its members is so guilty of unprofessional conduct that he should be punished for the offense, then it is up to that county medical society to bring the offending member before the society to answer charges and receive such sentence as the majority of the members of the society may think indicated after the facts have been presented and properly analyzed.—Indiana Medical Journal, September 15, 1922.

Pauperizing Practices—The Physicians' Protective Association of Buffalo, made up of 450 of the 857 physicians in that city, is carrying on an energetic fight against the pauperization of the public through free medical services in local hospitals. Abuses are tolerated under the mask of public health, and the Buffalo physicians believe that it is time to put a stop to the practice of making dependents and paupers of people who are able to pay something for the services rendered. The question concerns the public more than it does the medical profession, for no community can afford to tolerate widespread and unnecessary pauperization of any kind of unnecessary free aid.—Indiana Medical Journal, September 15, 1922.

OBITUARY

WILLIAM STEWART HALSTED

With the death of Professor Halsted, surgery lost one of its great leaders. This philosopher-surgeon was ever intent on extending the bounds of medical knowledge, and devoted himself whole-heartedly to qualifying and enriching the minds of his many pupils. We are grateful for this legacy, which he so bountifully distributed during his lifetime, "teaching what he had learned, and learning in order that he might teach."

We glory in his tireless energy, his quiet, simple and unostentatious manner, and in the splendid accomplishment of his many tasks. He was truly a great man, a daring and brilliant pioneer of surgery, and his single-hearted and self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of scientific research had its reward in achievements of the most vital and far-reaching nature.

DEATHS

MacAulay, Sarah Hatton. Died at Monterey, Calif., Sept. 17, 1922. She was a graduate of Hahnemann Med. Coll. of the Pacific, 1904. Wife of Dr. Martin MacAulay.

Cross, Harry N. Died August 18, 1922, aged 55. Graduate of Cooper Medical College, 1889. Member of San Joaquin County Medical Society.

Merryman, Thomas J. Died at Whittier, August 21, 1922, aged 77. Graduate of Hahnemann Med. Coll. and Hosp. of Chicago, 1868.